Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 EB-07 OMB-01

IO-10 AID-05 FRB-03 IGA-01 /084 R

DRAFTED BY 22670 6/30/75 APPROVED BY NEA/ARN - MR. DAY H - MR. SCHNEE PM/SAS - SWINSHIP

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O 302259Z JUN 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, JO, US

SUBJECT: ROSENTHAL RESOLUTION ON JORDAN HAWK

REF: AMMAN 4293

- 1. WE HAVE SENT YOU TEXT OF RESOLUTION (STATE 147754) AND HAVE TODAY CABLED TEXT OF LETTER OF REPLY FROM EXECUTIVE. STATUS OF ACTION ON THE HILL IS AS FOLLOWS:
- 2. HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MET TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION ON JUNE 26 AND VOTED TO TABLE IT. PRIOR TO VOTE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN EXPRESSED VIEW THAT RESOLUTION NOT PRIVILEGED AS IT CALLED FOR OPINIONS AND REQUIRED INVESTIGATION RATHER THAN MERELY REQUESTING FACTS(IF PARLIAMENTARIAN SUSTAINS THIS POSITION NET EFFECT IS THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ROSENTHAL DOES NOT HAVE PRIVILEGE OF CALLING HIS RESOLUTION

OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR FLOOR ACTION). DURING COMMITTEE SESSION ROSENTHAL HAD DESCRIBED EACH ANSWER PROVIDED BY EXECUTIVE AS INADEQUATE OR OTHERWISE FAULTY. HE PREDICTED LETTER OF OFFER TO JORDAN WOULD BE SENT TO CONGRESS JUST BEFORE AUGUST RECESS AND THUS DEPRIVE CONGRESS OF TIME IN WHICH TO OPPOSE.

- 3. EXACT TIMING OF TRANSMISSION OF LETTER OF OFFER TO CONGRESS STILL UNCERTAIN. IF LETTER GOES TO HILL EARLY ENOUGH TO PERMIT CONGRESS TO CONSIDER AND VOTE A RESOLUTION OBJECTING TO PROPOSED SALE, SHOULD IT WISH TO DO SO, ROSENTHAL MAY LOSE INTEREST IN PURSUING HIS RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY. IF HE SHOULD WISH TO PURSUE IT FURTHER, HOWEVER, AND IF HIS ORIGINAL RESOLUTION REMAINS BLOCKED FOR REASONS OUTLINED IN PARA 2, HE COULD SUBMIT NEW RESOLUTION OMITTING ELEMENTS TO WHICH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN OBJECTED.
- 4. LETTER OF OFFER REFERRED TO ABOVE COVERS HAWK MISSILES AND MUST BE REPORTED TO CONGRESS AS MAJOR MILITARY PURCHASE; AS YOU ARE AWARE, REDEYE LOA ALREADY HAS BEEN PASSED TO JORDANIANS WITHOUT PRIOR SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS, SINCE VALUE LESS THAN \$25 MILLION (EXECUTIVE REPLY TO ROSENTHAL RESOLUTION GAVE ERRONEOUS IMPRESSION ON THIS POINT). WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THIS MAY RESULT IN FURTHER CRITICISM OF HAWK/REDEYE DEAL AND ARE THEREFORE CONSIDERING POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS TO CLARIFY STATUS OF TRANSACTIONS.
- 5. IN CONCURRENT DEVELOPMENT, STATE AND DOD WERE ASKED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS HAWK AND REDEYE SALES WITH SEVERAL STAFF MEMBERS OF SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. DISCUSSIONS TOOK PLACE JUNE 27, AND STAFF MEMBER PRINCIPALLY INTERESTED (STEPHEN BRYEN, RECENTLY OF SENATOR CASE'S STAFF) GAVE US IMPRESSION THAT WE COULD HOPE FOR SUPPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON OUR POSITION.
- 6. WE HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO CLARIFY QUESTION OF RAYTHEON COMMISSION AND WILL INFORM YOU IMMEDIATELY WHEN WE HAVE FACTS SORTED OUT. INGERSOLL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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To: AMMAN

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